

## A PRELIMINARY LIST OF THE BIRDS OF KHAO YAI NATIONAL PARK

By

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### INTRODUCTION.

This preliminary list of the Birds of Khao Yai National park is primarily based on personal observations by *P.F. Cumberlege* and the author. However, much valuable comparative material has been drawn from *J.H. Riley's* excellent treatise on the collections of Dr. *H.M. Smith* who collected, amongst other places, extensively around Pak Chong (which lies north of our boundary).

I have refrained from including all the Pak Chong collected species, for this article would then be less restricted to the actual park of Khao Yai than is desirable. However, three of the localities at which *Smith* collected are within, or very close to, the park and birds taken there I have covered (those however which neither *P.F.C.* nor I have observed are only listed in Appendix I). The three localities are:—

Tha Chang } just outside our area to the north of Khao Laem.  
Knong Phra }

Kao Lem = Khao Laem.

(The last named place has suffered some confusion in *Riley's* work with Kao Lem Sing, near Chantaburi in S.E. Thailand but only, I think, on *Malacocincla abbotti* and *Cyanops incognita*).

### NOMENCLATURE / REFERENCES.

I have used the nomenclature used by *H.G. Deignan* in "The Birds of Northern Thailand" and his order, since this work is the most useful local work. I have also given references to it for it contains excellent descriptions for all except a very few of the species annotated here. ("D" indicates this work).

*Riley's* nomenclature varies from that adopted by *Deignan* in some cases but a synonymy is not necessary. "The Birds of Burma" by *B.E. Smythies* contains illustrations of many of the species listed and the plate

numbers are given where appropriate (this work being readily obtainable). To this work too I refer on 2 of the species not covered by *Deignan's* work, and for Nightjar calls. ("S" indicates this work).

Parentheses, [     ], around English names indicate that the species is listed with reservations, further observations are needed to confirm the tentative identification.

I have not used trinomials, for sub-specific field identifications are rarely feasible or wise. I have not felt it necessary for a work of this type to include the name of the original describer of the species.

For English names I have taken the most appropriate from the above works and even very slightly changed some.

#### LOCATION, GEOGRAPHY & HABITATS.

The accompanying article by *P.F.* and *V.M.S. Cumberlege* on Orchids deals very adequately with the general details.

Khao Yai lies in the Sankambeng range which runs from S.E. to N.W., nothing in its location makes it apparently important to migration or speciation, except that the bulk of the massif and the heights of the taller peaks give refuge to several forms one might not expect this far South — one such is *Enicurus schistacaeus*.

The habitats need perhaps further description in relation to the birds, and the separation is not quite as for orchids.

1. Lower deciduous forest — to be found along Thanarat road and to the edge of the foothills. Typical birds of the area *Psittacula alexandri*, *Acridotheres fuscus* and *Coracias benghalensis*.
2. Bamboo brakes — together with dry evergreen — replace it on the slopes. Not much explored for birds.
3. Dry evergreen, with strong undergrowth, and in cleared areas a growth of wild bananas, runs up the slopes to the plateau. Birds are very few.
4. Hill evergreen — which can be split further into :
  - Upper — with conifers *Podocarpus* and *Dacrydium* heavily invested with lianas, moss, lichens, etc. 1100 m. up.
  - Middle — evergreen chestnuts and oaks, *Quercus*, *Lithocarpus* and *Castanopsis* 1000 m. - 1100 m.
  - Lower — mainly dipterocarps with varying degrees of undergrowth and fern etc. 750 m. — 1000 m.



Needless to say this is rather arbitrary and much overlapping takes place. I do not think one can justly split the Middle and Lower evergreen — together they form a wonderfully rich bird habitat. The upper does have some other typical forms. e.g. *Aethyopaga saturata*.

5. Old clearings—lalang covered. Typical birds are *Centropus bengalensis*, *Prinia rufescens*, *Cisticola exilis* and *Pycnonotus jocosus*.

#### DATES & COVERAGE.

Seasonally my coverage has been rather limited but geographically quite good — most of the areas accessible from the camp area having been visited several times.

Dates: 29.6.62 – 1.7.62  
 14.9.62 – 16.9.62  
 8.2.63 – 10.2.63  
 2.3.63 – 4.3.63  
 12.4.63 – 15.4.63  
 4.5.63 – 5.5.63  
 6.7.63 – 8.7.63  
 9.8.63 – 12.8.63.

A reconstruction from the dates of *Smith's* specimens shows him on:

25.2.24	in Knong Phra
23.11.25	in Tha Chang
2.3.27	in Tha Chang
14.–22.3.27	in Tha Chang
14.3.29	in Tha Chang
10.–16.4.29	in Knong Phra
25.–29.2.30	on Kao Laem
1.–2.1.31	in Tha Chang.

Further notes supplied by *P.F. Cumberlege* are based upon the dates of his visits which appear in the article on orchids.

#### ANNOTATED LIST OF SPECIES:

**Oriental Darter.** *Anhinga rufa*  
 (D. 31, S. XXVII).

Seen once on the lake in the camp area by *P.F.C.*, and seen flying over going S.W. on 12.4.63.

**Green Heron.***Butorides striatus*

(D. 33, S. XXVIII).

Probably seen by *P.F.C.* in January 1963, and then definitely recorded on 8.2.63 and 16.3.63 at different points along the Lam Ta Krong (about 700–850 m.)

**Pond Heron.***Ardeola bacchus*

(D. 35, S. XXVIII).

This species is apparently present during the dry season at the small lakes in the valleys of the massif. These birds assume summer plumage before leaving about June — presumably to the plains to breed. The identification of the three races of Pond Heron is difficult even in summer plumage — and I find little agreement even there between the sources I have been able to consult.

**Blyth's Baza.***Baza jerdoni*

There is a crepuscular bird of prey that appears over the lalang clearings at dusk in some numbers and calls plaintively. Limited views have allowed sight of a crest. Only 2 species are possible and both should show white on the underside of their plumage; one of them is this species, the other is the *Bat Hawk* *Machærhampus alcinus*. However, no white has been seen on the Khao Yai bird.

I am of the opinion that the birds are *Baza jerdoni*. *P.F.C.* is undecided. I base my decision of the following points:—

1. *B. jerdoni* is reportedly gregarious — up to 14 individuals have been seen together at Khao Yai.

2. *M. alcinus* is not believed to have occurred north of Tenneserim and Peninsular Thailand — it is also reputedly associated with limestone outcrops which are lacking at Khao Yai.

3. *B. jerdoni* has been taken by *Smith* near Pak Chong 17.11.25 (see *Riley* p. 43).

4. A specimen of *B. jerdoni* — the only one examined — in the collection of Dr. *Boonsong Lekagul* shows so little white that viewed from beneath at dusk it could well be impossible to see.

For a description see *Stuart Baker's* Fauna of British India, Birds, Vol. V p. 174.



**Honey Buzzard.***Pernis ptilorhyncus*

(D. 59).

Seen just outside the park along Thanarat Road 10.2.63. Also taken at Tha Chang by *Smith* 15.3.27. This bird must certainly occur within the park.

**[ Horsfield's Sparrowhawk ]***Accipiter soloensis*

(D. 65).

One near the South end of the ridge on Khao Khiew 9.2.63., but the species is too difficult to identify in the field for certain from a view of so short a duration.

**Rufous-Winged Buzzard Eagle.***Butastur liventer*

(D 69, S. XX).

1 adult and an immature bird seen circling over the park 11.8.63.

**Black Eagle***Ictinaëetus malayensis*

(D. 72).

First seen in January from above by *P.F.C.* when on Khao Khiew. Two seen flying, well separated, towards there on 9.2.63, one was seen by *P.F.C.* at Heo Suwat waterfall on 21.7.63, and one or two on Khao Khiew 11.8.63.

**[ Harrier sp? ].***Circus sp?*

One bird, probably a *Pied Harrier* *C. melanoleucos*, was seen flying over the park during March 1963, and another juvenile was seen near the bungalows by *P.F.C.* one evening in May 1963.

**Crested Serpent Eagle.***Spilornis cheela*

(D 78, S. XIX).

One seen 3.3.63, a pair circling and calling 17.3.63, and one 12.4.63. The pale sub-terminal bar on the wings and tail – very clear when looking at a soaring bird from below – is a good field mark.

**[ Falcon sp? ]***Falco sp?*

A small and rather undistinguished falcon is regularly seen about the camp area. It has not yet been seen really well, but although the bird has never been seen hovering it is most likely to prove to be a *Kestrel* *Falco tinnunculus*.

**Red-Thighed Falconet***Microhierax caerulescens*

(D 84, S. XIX).

This delightful little bird has been seen just outside the park boundary along Thanarat Road. 3 on 4.5.63, with 6 there the following day — for a moment they were all perched in a group. 2 on 9.7.63, one of them in the same vicinity. It almost certainly will be found within the park boundary.

**Silver Pheasant.***Gennaesus nycthemurus*

(D. 94).

This species has been seen by *P.F.C.* It should be looked for at dawn or dusk.

**Junglefowl.***Gallus gallus*

(D. 96, S. XXII).

This bird is certainly present in the park in good numbers and may be heard crowing by almost any visitor. It comes into the open in early morning and evening and has been seen on numerous occasions. *P.F.C.* found a nest and eggs in May 1962. *Smith* took a male at Tha Chang 1.1.31.

[ **Hemipode sp.?** ].*Turnix sp?*

(D. 100).

It seems probable that *T. tanki* occurs here at least in winter for the bird seen on 3.3.63 had yellow feet, others seen 12.4. and 7.3.63 were not seen so clearly and may well be *T. suscitator* which could be expected as a resident in the lalang covered clearings.

**Little Ringed Plover.***Charadrius dubius*

(D. 119, S. XXV).

One has been seen by *P.F.C.* on the edge of the lake about December 1962., another by the author 10.8.63 on a laterite road by the camp.

**Pink-Breasted Parakeet.***Psittacula alexandri*

(D. 135, S. XVI).

This bird occurs in the deciduous forest along Thanarat Road close to, and almost certainly within, the park — parakeets have been seen flying over in small flocks on several occasions.



**Lorikeet.***Loriculus vernalis*

(D. 139, S. XVI).

One seen briefly 10.2.63 perched on a tall bare tree standing above the main canopy at a spot about 800 m. above sea level, and a flock of about 25 at the edge of the massif by the 'Viewpoint' on 12.8.63.

**Smaller Thick-Billed Green Pigeon.** *Treron curvirostra*

(D. 143, S. XXI).

Several lone green pigeons seen briefly have been thought to be this but confirmation was not had until 16.3.63., however on 4.5.63 good views were had of a flock of about 15. The casual observer should not assume all green pigeons to be of this race – *T. pompadora* is probably present and others of this large group may well occur.

**Mountain Imperial Pigeon.** *Ducula badia*

(D. 149).

This large pigeon has been seen on several occasions usually flying high over the camp area. It has been seen perched nearby on 16.3.63 and 14.4.63.

**Barred Cuckoo Dove.***Macropygia unchall*

(D. 150).

This long tailed brown dove is a common resident but hard to get close to. Good views were not obtained until 10.8.63.

**[ Rufous Dove ].***Streptopelia orientalis*

(D. 152, S. XXI).

A shy dove that has been flushed from the cleared ground near the bungalows at the camp is thought to be of this species.

**Spotted-Necked Dove.***Streptopelia chinensis*

(D. 153, S. XXI).

On 6.7.63 the hill road up onto the massif was swarming with these birds – not long after rain, which were also seen in August. *Smith* took a male at Tha Chang 23.11.25.

**Emerald Dove.***Chalcophaps indica*

(D. 156, S. XXI).

A bird of the hill evergreen emerging to drink at pools by the roadsides – particularly in the early morning. Seen quite often.

**Large Green-Billed Malkoha.** *Rhopodytes tristis*

(D. 168, S. XV).

Seen 3.3.63, 8.7.63, 10.8.63 and 11.8.63., this is a species which skulks, and is usually only seen as it slips quietly from one thick tree to another.

**Greater Coucal.***Centropus sinensis*

(D. 169, S. XV).

This bird has been seen towards evening along Thanarat road right up to the sign over the road at the park entrance. It has not been seen higher up.

**Lesser Coucal.***Centropus benghalensis*

(D. 170).

*Deignan* remarks that this bird can be found in hill stands of lalang and at Khao Yai it has been found up on the main massif where the lalang clearings have weed grown valleys. These birds have all appeared in the dress that *Deignan* describes as immature, and have been seen in February and March.

**Collared Scops Owl.***Otus asio*

(D. 175).

Heard calling 8.2.63 near the camp area.

**Long-Tailed Nightjar.** *Caprimulgus macrurus*

(D. 185, S. page 370).

There are nightjars regularly around the camp area at Khao Yai and on Forestry Hill. In May 1962 *P.F.C.* found and photographed one young but unidentifiable chick about a week old. These birds however are notoriously difficult to identify and in spite of good views of birds in the headlights perched at only 10 yards range, I am relying on the 'Summary of Nightjar Calls' published on p. 370 in *Smythies* to identify these birds.

**[Swifts?].***Chaetura / Apus*

Swifts can be regularly seen over the area — particularly above Heo Suwat Waterfall — two types prevail: a large swift with very pale under-tail coverts, probably *C. gigantea* — which was collected at Tha Chang by *Smith*



on 16.3.27, and a smaller, slower-flying white-rumped individual probably *A. affinis* or *A. pacificus*.

**Palm Swift.** *Cypsiurus parvus*

(D. 191, S. XVIII).

A very few have been seen occasionally over the park—they may be stragglers from the lower slopes where suitable palms occur.

**Red-Headed Trogon.** *Harpactes erythrocephalus*

(D. 193, S. XVIII).

This brightly coloured species is a bird of moist hill evergreen. It has been seen twice near the Lam Ta Krong, and once on a tributary. Once between Heo Suwat and Pha Kluay-mai Waterfalls on 2.3.63 and on 16.3.63 much further upstream near Wang Champi, but up the side of the valley; finally a female on 10.8.63 near the camp. *Smith* took it on Khao Laem on 27.12.30.

**Kingfisher.** *Alcedo atthis*

(D. 196, S. XVII).

Seen along the Lam Tha Krong a number of times, and during March 1963 probably at least two individuals were present.

**White-Breasted Kingfisher.** *Halcyon smyrnensis*

(D. 202, S. XVII).

Seen by *P.F.C.* in February 1963 and on March 3rd by the author about half-way up the hill road on to the massif.

**Blue-Tailed Bee-Eater.** *Merops superciliosus*

(D. 205, S. XVII).

A flock of about 15 were found near Wang Champi in a large tree in a lalang clearing by the river on 8.2.63. Height about 800–850 m.

**Bay-Headed Bee-Eater.** *Merops leschenaulti*

(D. 208, S. XVII).

Seen regularly over the clearings at Khao Yai during March and April 1963.

**Blue-Bearded Bee-Eater.** *Nyctiornis athertoni*

(D. 209).

1 seen 10.8.63 is the only record from within the park.

**Black-Billed Roller.** *Coracias benghalensis*

(D. 210, S. XVI).

This bird occurs up to the edge of the hills and indeed a pair was seen apparently using a nest hole just within the park along Thanarat Road on 4.5.63.

**Red-Billed Roller.** *Eurystomus orientalis*

(D. 211, S. XVI).

Seen from March through to August. This bird can often be seen flying over the park — somewhat erratically. It flies slower than the similar wing-patterned *Grackles*: apparently all dark except for white panels in the underwing. *Smith* took a female at Tha Chang 19.3.27.

**Great Hornbill.** *Dichoceros bicornis*

(D. 214, S. Frontispiece).

Apparently quite common. Usually heard first and then seen singly or in pairs. Recorded in March, April, July, August and September—and probably resident on the plateau.

**Little Pied Hornbill.** *Anthracoceros coronatus*

(D. 216, S. XVII).

This hornbill is gregarious and perhaps a wanderer in altitude. Two flocks have been seen in March along valleys in the hill evergreen on the massif, and a single bird was seen 5.5.63 at the foot of the hill on Thanarat Road—just outside the park.

**Waved Hornbill.** *Aceros undulatus*

(D. 218).

Views of large hornbills with all black bodies and white tails are not rare—but until 5.5.63 none was seen close enough to confirm it as this, and not the less likely, but very similar, *A. plicatus* (mentioned by *Deignan* as *Rhyticeros subruficollis*) which is said to occur in S.W. Thailand north of the Peninsular. All birds seen have been on the plateau or on Khao Khieow.

**Green-Eared Barbet.** *Cyanops faiostricta*

(D. 224).

This bird has been seen twice - on 15.4.63 near Viravudhya Waterfall, and on 12.8.63 near the "Viewpoint". It is however a green bird in a green forest and is probably more common than these two records indicate.



**Blue-Throated Barbet.**      *Cyanops asiatica*  
(D. 226, S. XV).

This seems to be the commonest barbet in the area—which calls all the time—but the call of *C. incognita* (see below) is probably indistinguishable.

**Blue-Eared Barbet.**      *Cyanops australis*  
(D. 227).

One seen 11.8.63. This small barbet is hard to see and is probably only sparsely distributed in the park.

**Hume's Blue-Throated Barbet.**      *Cyanops incognita*  
(S. page 313, Riley p. 206).

This barbet has been seen twice at close quarters by the author and once by *P.F.C. . Smith* took 2 females on Khao Laem on 27 and 29.12.30. (*Riley* says "Kao Lem, Chantabun" but the dates must make it the mountain within Khao Yai National Park).

**Crimson-Breasted Barbet.**      *Xantholaema haemacephala*  
(D. 228, S. XV).

The coppersmith barbet is a lowland bird and has only been seen along Thanarat Road close to the park boundary. 2 males taken by *Smith* at Knong Phra 16.4.29., and 1 male at Tha Chang 14.3.27.

**Scaly-Bellied Woodpecker.**      *Picus vittatus*  
(D. 230).

One seen 12.4.63 in the evergreen jungle near the camp area, another near Gaeng Geow 10.8.63. A pair was taken at Tha Chang by *Smith* on 20.3.27.

This species is not easy to tell from *P. canus*, which *Smith* took at Knong Phra on 15.4.29 and the student is advised to take full notes—black on the crown/nape alone is not distinctive, but red alone or red plus black will serve to distinguish the adult males.

**Lesser Yellow-Naped Woodpecker.**      *Picus chlorolophus*  
(D. 234).

Seen in March, May, July, and August. Probably a resident on the massif and the slopes of Khao Khiew.

**3 Toed Golden-Backed Woodpecker.** *Dinopium javanense*  
(D. 248).

This is probably the commoner of the two very similar Golden-backed Woodpeckers. Has been seen several times—though not always certainly separated from the following species.

Taken by *Smith* at Tha Chang 1 male 16.3.27 and at Knong Phra-  
1 male 2 females 10–12.4.29.

**4 Toed Golden-Backed Woodpecker.** *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*  
(D. 249).

Only seen certainly on 10.8.63 – a pair near the road bridge over  
the Lam Ta Krong.

A female was taken by *Smith* on Khao Laem 29.12.30.

**Long-Tailed Broadbill.** *Psarisomus dalhousiae*  
(D. 255, S. XIII).

This species has only been seen in the immediate vicinity of the  
Lam Ta Krong, several 2.3.63 and 1 only on 12.4.63. Previous authors'  
comments on distribution do not mention this area but *P. d. cyanicauda*  
of S.E. Thailand (*Riley* p. 253) seems to be the nearest race, which suggests  
that Indo-Chinese forms may influence the birds of this area.

**Silver-Breasted Broadbill.** *Serilophus lunatus*  
(D. 257).

*P.F.C.* has recorded a small mixed flock of this, the above, and the  
next species along the Lam Ta Krong in April 1962. *Smith* took a pair  
on Khao Laem on 28.12.30.

**Banded Broadbill.** *Eurylaimus javanicus*  
(D. 259).

The only record that I can trace is that of *P.F.C.* This species  
must be expected to be rare, as it is in Thailand generally.

**House Swallow.** *Hirundo rustica*  
(D. 267, S. XII).

During the 'winter' months seen regularly flying over the lalang  
clearings and some seen even in July 1963.



**Scarlet Minivet.***Pericrocotus speciosus*

(D. 273, S. VII).

This colourful bird is a readily visible resident – keeping mainly to the canopy of the evergreen. *Smith* took an immature male on Khao Laem 25.12.30.

**Bar-Winged Flycatcher Shrike.** *Hemipus picatus*

(D. 281, S. VII).

This species too appears to be a fairly common resident – but is invariably silent and often well above ground level and so not easily found. *Smith* took a pair at Tha Chang 16.3.27.

**Grey Caterpillar Shrike.***Campephaga fimbriata*

(D. 284).

This too is a typical evergreen forest species – rather less addicted to mixed flocks than the previous species. It is common along the trail sides at Khao Yai – climbing rapidly about trees and lianas.

**Pale Ashy Drongo.***Dicrurus leucophaeus*

(D. 287, S. VIII).

A dark form of this species – quite different from the one to be found in Bangkok at the same time – evidently occurs in winter months. Plentiful in February 1963.

**Bronzed Drongo.***Chaptia aenea*

(D. 293, S. VIII).

Apparently a common resident. Found along the roads and trails on the plateau.

**Greater Racquet-Tailed Drongo.** *Dissemurus paradiseus*

(D. 295, S. VIII).

This handsome bird appears to be resident and may be found from the level of the plains at Thanarat Road up to the plateau. Often in pairs or flocks.

**Black-Naped Oriole.***Oriolus chinensis*

(D. 296, S. X).

This species has been met with only once on 17.3.63 when 2 birds were found near the camp area. It is probably either a cool season visitor or a passage migrant. *Smith* took a male at Tha Chang 19.3.27.

**Jungle Crow.***Corvus macrorhynchos*

(D. 300, S. I).

Resident

**Green-Breasted Hunting Crow.** *Kitta chinensis*

(D. 303, S. I).

Fairly common in the evergreen jungle from the level of Heo Suwat Waterfall to the top of Khao Khieow.

**Fairy Bluebird.***Irena puella*

(D. 320, S. X).

This picturesque species is one of the commonest jungle birds. It can be constantly heard calling and is usually easily seen – though not always so that the light falls on it. Seen from about 700-900 m. which is most of the plateau area. *Smith* took a pair on Khao Laem 27.12.30.

**Golden-Hooded Leafbird.***Chloropsis cochinchinensis*

(D. 325, S. III).

Seen quite often on the main plateau, this would appear to be common in the park.

**Black-Headed Yellow Bulbul.***Pycnonotus dispar*

(D. 329, S. IV).

This bird is common in the hill evergreen but the birds have red throats – typical of what has been called *P. johnsoni* but is more probably a race of *P. dispar*. *Smith* took females at Knong Phra 25.2.24. and 16.4.29 and an unsexed bird at Tha Chang 14.3.29.

**Red-Whiskered Bulbul.***Pycnonotus jocosus*

(D. 330, S. IV).

This bird was not, I think, present in the lalang clearings when the camp was established, but it is now an evident resident. The red on the cheeks is not easily seen from any distance, but the bird cannot be confused with anything else.

**Streaked-Throated Bulbul.***Pycnonotus finlaysoni*

(D. 334).

This bird has only once been seen within the park – at Wang Champi on 13.4.63. But it has also been seen along Thanarat Road just outside the park.



**White-Throated Bulbul.** *Criniger tephrogenys*

(D. 337).

This bird is common in the evergreen but should not be confused with the duller similar *Microscelis charlottae*. The present species has a very white throat and is otherwise a contrasting brown. Taken 26.12.30 on Khao Laem by *Smith*.

**Viridescent Bulbul.** *Microscelis charlottae*

(D. 339).

Apparently somewhat less common than the preceding species but of similar appearance and much the same habitat.

**Brown-Eared Bulbul.** *Microscelis flava*

(D. 342).

First seen on the summit of Khao Khieow 9.2.63 subsequently around the camp area during March and April – this is probably quite a common bird. The greenish yellow on the wing is quite a good field character. A male was taken by *Smith* on Khao Laem 26.12.30.

**Black-Throated Laughing Thrush.** *Garrulax chinensis*

(D. 356, S. II).

1 seen on the slopes of Khao Khieow on 11.8.63.

Taken by *Smith* on Khao Laem 27.12.30.

**White-Crested Laughing Thrush.** *Garrulax leucolophus*

(D. 357, S. II).

This is the commonest of its genus in the park – and can be heard calling by every visitor. It is however usually hard to see. A resident.

**Indian Herpornis.** *Erpornis zantholeuca*

(D. 372).

This seems to be a common resident of the lower hill evergreen. *Smith* took a male at Tha Chang 22.3.27.

**Spotted Babbler.** *Pellorneum ruficeps*

(D. 378, S. III).

A small flock seen 10.8.63., this bird is a shy, rarely seen, resident. Taken by *Smith* - 1 female at Knong Phra 10.4.29 and 1 immature female at Tha Chang 21.3.27.

**Yellow-Breasted Babbler.***Mixornis gularis*

(D. 386, S. III).

This small undergrowth rambler has been seen quite often and can be presumed common.

**Abbott's Babbler.***Malacocincla abbotti*

(S. page 24).

Two were seen in underbrush near the camp area 12.4.63. *Riley* gives "2 males, Kao Lem, Chantabun, June 7, 1926 and December 28, 1930". On the former date *Smith* may well have been on Kao Lem Sing, but the second bird must have been on Khao Laem within the park. *Smith* also took 2 males 1 female at Knong Phra 9 – 10.4.29 and 2.1.31

**Yellow-Billed Scimitar Babbler.** *Pomatorhinus schisticeps*

(D. 393, S. III).

This species has been seen several times and heard many more – it is fairly common in the lower evergreen where there is some underbrush.

**Slaty-Backed Forktail.***Enicurus schistaceus*

(D. 401).

This bird was found in December 1962 by *P.F.C.* and was seen frequently from then until 15.4.63 on which date the author found a young bird near Viravudhya Waterfall. Since then seen once on 12.8.63. Over the area covered about 5 pairs must have been in residence: they seemed territory conscious. This is believed to be the first record of breeding from this part of Thailand.

**Blue Whistling Thrush.***Myophonus caeruleus*

(D. 404, S. V).

Seen once below Heo Suwat Waterfall by *P.F.C.* and twice above it by the author on 10.2.63 and 12.4.63.

**Rufous-Breasted Stonechat.***Saxicola torquata*

(D. 412, S. IV).

This is a cool weather visitor to Khao Yai where it frequents the lalang clearings.

**Shama.***Kittacincla malabarica*

(D. 421, S. V).

This beautiful bird has been seen several times from the foot of the hill near Thanarat Road up to the area around the camp. It is fairly



common, but shy. *Smith* took an immature male at Knong Phra 12.4.29. and a female at Tha Chang 18.3.27.

**White-Throated Rock Thrush.** *Monticola gularis*  
(D. 423).

An adult male was watched for some minutes by *P.F.C.* and the author on 9.2.63 along the road to Khao Khiew. Full field notes were taken even the white triangle on the lower throat being noted. This would appear to be about the 12th record for Thailand.

**Chestnut-Bellied Rock Thrush.** *Monticola rufiventris*  
(D. 424).

One was seen — presumably on passage — almost at the top of the hill road up to Khao Yai on 3.3.63.

**Blue Rock Thrush.** *Monticola solitarius*  
(D. 424, S. V).

This species may be present throughout the year but so far it has only been recorded from 15.9. - 14.4. It is often to be seen during that period in the immediate vicinity of the bungalows.

**White-Browed Thrush.** *Turdus obscurus*  
(D. 427).

One presumably on passage, in the edge of the evergreen, 10.2.63.

**Grey-Breasted Flycatcher.** *Muscicapa latirostris*  
(D. 439).

This is apparently another cold season visitor, or passage migrant. It has been recorded only on 15 - 16.9.62., but no doubt in view of its presence elsewhere occurs to a much greater extent.

**Red-Breasted Flycatcher.** *Siphia parva*  
(D. 440).

This like the preceding species can be expected throughout the cool weather in open jungle, but so far has been recorded only once: on 3.3.63 on a lone tree in a huge lalang clearing.

[ **Cyornis sp.** ] *Cyornis sp*  
(D. 447-452, S. VI).

A male — almost certainly *C. banyumas* — on 16.3.63 along the Lam Ta Krong by Wang Champi, and a female on the east slope of Khao

Khieow at about 1250 m. and suspected of being *C. hainana*, are the only individuals of this difficult group seen. The identifications which are tentative are thanks to the skins in the collection of Dr. **Boonsong Lekagul**. **Smith** took *C. hainana* — a female — at Tha Chang on 23.11.25., *C. tickelliae* — 2 males — at Knong Phra 15 - 16.4.29, and *C. whitei* = *C. banyumas* — 5 males 2 females — on Khao Laem 26-28.12.30.

**Verditer Flycatcher.**

*Eumyias thalassina*

(D. 452, S. VI).

Only seen 8.2.63 when a male was seen down on the plains along Thanarat Road just outside the boundary, and a female was seen up in the evergreen forest on the plateau later on the same day.

**Grey-Headed Flycatcher.**

*Culicicapa ceylonensis*.

(D. 458, S. VI).

Seen 10.2.63 and 3.3.63 in the evergreen jungle. Collected by **Smith** on Khao Laem 26.12.30. Almost certainly a regular winter visitor.

**Black-Naped Flycatcher.**

*Hypothymis azurea*

(D. 462, S. VI).

Only seen 10.2.63, 12.4.63 and 10.8.63 in the same habitat as the preceding species. **Smith** took a female at Knong Phra 11.4.29. Probably a regular winter visitor.

[ **Warblers sp?** ]

*Phylloscopus sp?*

During the cool weather these small birds are probably present in good numbers — in February and March 1963 a few were seen, but never near enough or for long enough to get a useful description.

**Black-Throated Tailorbird.**

*Orthotomus atrogularis*

(D. 489).

One 13.4.63 near Wang Champi.

**Rufescent Prinia.**

*Prinia rufescens*

(D. 492).

This species is typical of the lalang clearings but is probably not resident there. Those seen there were seen during March-August 1963. **Smith** took a female at Tha Chang 2.3.27.



**Yellow-Bellied Prinia.***Prinia flaviventris*

(D. 494, S. IX).

First seen by *P.F.C.* in a lalang area within the park and subsequently not far outside it on 4.5.63 by the author, and the following day in company with *P. rufescens*.

**Exiled Fantail Warbler.***Cisticola exilis*

(D. 497).

This little bird assumes a red head in summer plumage and probably breeds in the lalang areas of Khao Yai where it has been seen from April to about August/September.

**Pied Wagtail.***Motacilla alba*

(D. 502, S. XII).

This species has been seen by *P.F.C.*, by the lake near the camp. The date is unfortunately not recorded.

**Grey Wagtail.***Motacilla cinerea*

(D. 505, S. XII).

This bird can be found during the dry season along the Lam Ta Krong and also at pools along forest tracks. Extreme dates are 11.8 and 16.3.

**Forest Wagtail.***Dendronanthus indicus*

(D. 509, S. XII).

Only seen three times — 16.9.62 and 14.4.63 at almost identical spots along a trail through the jungle at about 850 m., and in by *P.F.C.* near the top of Khao Khiew in June.

**Ashy Swallow-Shrike.***Artamus fuscus*

(D. 515, S. VII).

Mainly seen flying over. On 3.3.63 quite a number drifting south in company with *Merops leschenaulti*, and on 16.3.63 one seen perched on a tall tree in the camp clearing later flew off south.

**Brown Shrike.***Lanius cristatus*

(D. 520, S. VII).

Probably only a passage migrant. Seen on small bushes in the lalang area 17.9.62 and 18.9.62 and again in mid-March 1963.

**Grackle.***Gracula religiosa*

(D. 522, S. X).

A common resident. Taken by *Smith* at Knong Phra 14.4.29.**Golden-Crested Myna.***Mino coronatus*

(D. 523).

Seen just outside the park along Thanarat Road 4.5.63 — probably occurs within the park.

**Jungle Myna.***Acridotheres cristatellus*

(D. 526, S. X).

This bird probably wanders into the edges of the park — it has often been seen along Thanarat Road, very close to the boundary.

**Black-Throated Sunbird.***Aethopyga saturata*

(D. 535).

Seen 14.4.63 and 11.8.63 on the summit of Khao Khiew.

**Streaked Spiderhunter.***Arachnothera magna*

(D. 543, S. XIII).

Seen twice 17.3. and 12.4.63 in the valley of the Lam Ta Krong.

**Golden-Green Whiteye.***Zosterops palpebrosa*

(D. 553, S. XIII).

A small flock seen by "Viewpoint" hill and 2 above the Lam Ta Krong near Pha Kluay-mai, on 12.8.63. This is an unusual record — probably the first for the S.E. and E. of Thailand.

**White Rumped Munia.***Lonchura striata*

(D. 556, S. XI).

Small flocks seen in the lalang at its lowest points — 10.8 and 13.8.63. Status uncertain.

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### **Summary:**

1. A general picture is given of the bird habitats within Khao Yai National Park, Thailand.

2. A preliminary list of species recorded within the park based upon field observations over the last eighteen months and the collections of Dr. *H.M. Smith* [as per *Riley* (1938)] made between 30 and 40 years ago is given.

3. The list contains cross-references to good descriptions and colour plates of many of the birds mentioned. It is annotated with remarks on the probable status of some species and with field identification characters in certain cases.

4. It is hoped that this list will encourage the publication of additional data on the birds of Khao Yai National Park.

**APPENDIX I.****Birds Collected by Dr. H.M. Smith at the Localities  
Mentioned But Not Seen by P.F.C. or the Author.**

<i>Tropicoperdix chloropus.</i>	<i>Sasia ochracea.</i>	<i>Anthus hodgsoni.</i>
<i>Diardigallus diardi.</i>	<i>Graucalus javensis.</i>	<i>Grucupica nigricollis.</i>
<i>Glaucidium cuculoides.</i>	<i>Chibia hottentota.</i>	<i>Grucupica leucocephala.</i>
<i>Harpactes oreskios.</i>	<i>Callisitta frontalis.</i>	<i>Acridotheres tristis.</i>
<i>Upupa epops.</i>	<i>Aethnorhynchus lafresnayi</i>	<i>Chalcoparia singalensis.</i>
<i>Thereiceryx lineata.</i>	<i>Aegithina tiphia.</i>	<i>Piprisoma modesta.</i>
<i>Picus canus.</i>	<i>Pycnonotus blanfordi.</i>	<i>Passer flaveolus</i>
<i>Micropternus brachyurus.</i>	<i>Garrulax monileger.</i>	<i>Emberiza aureola.</i>
<i>Mulleripicus pulverulentus.</i>	<i>Malacornis rufifrons.</i>	